

vf013 ViaFrancigena Saint-Maurice to Martigny

↔ 17.9 km

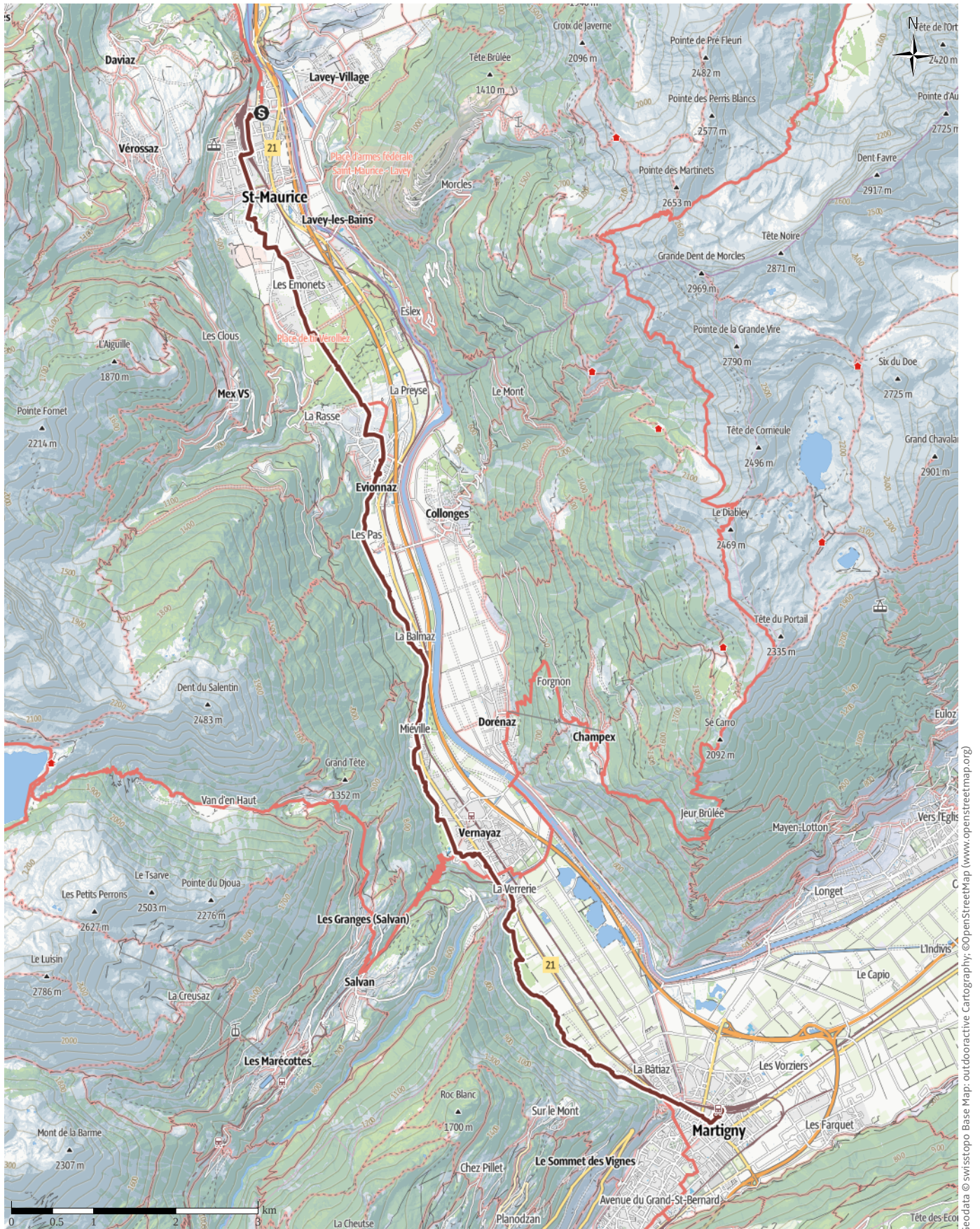
🕒 4:40 h

▲ 147 m

▼ 95 m

Difficulty

moderate



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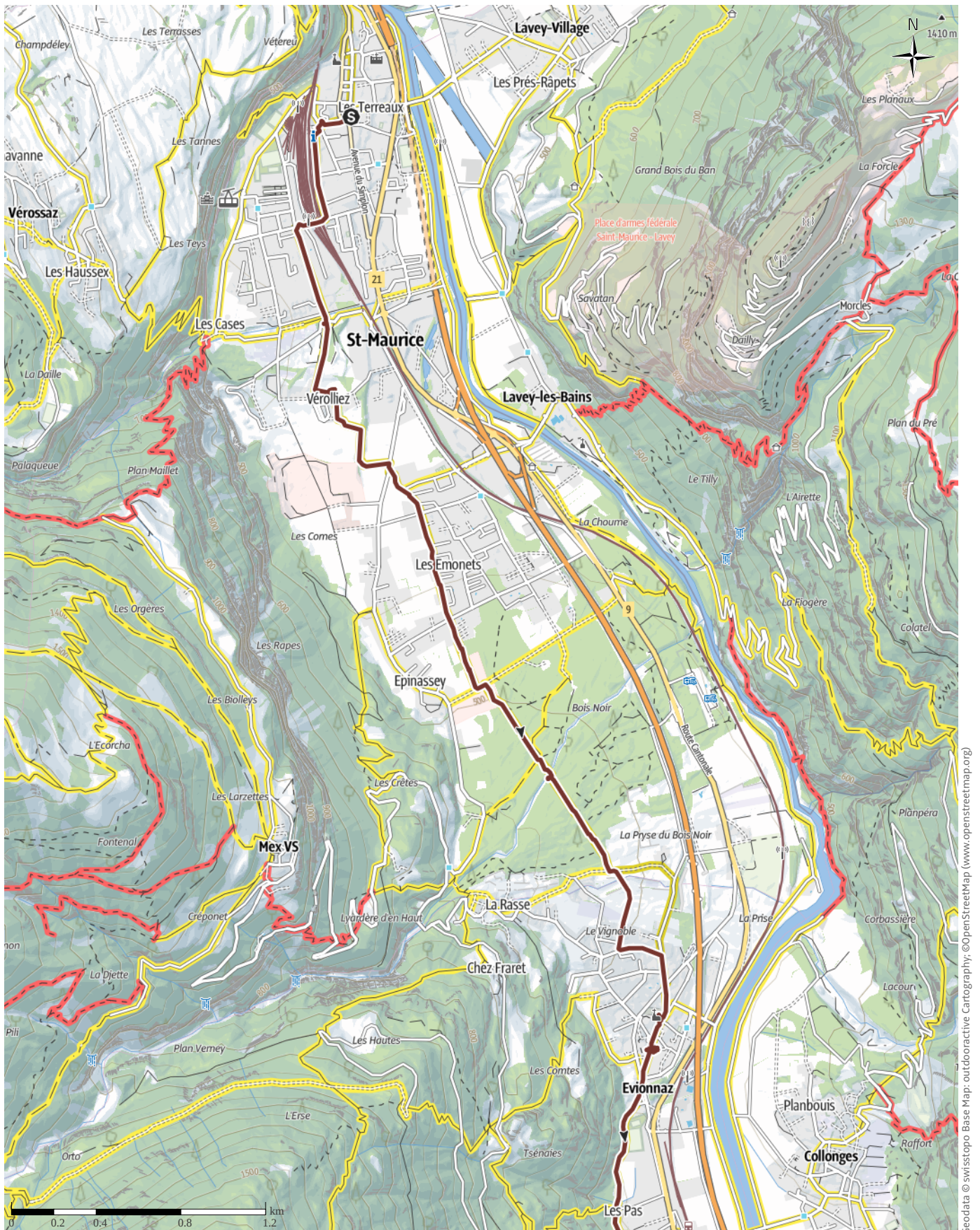
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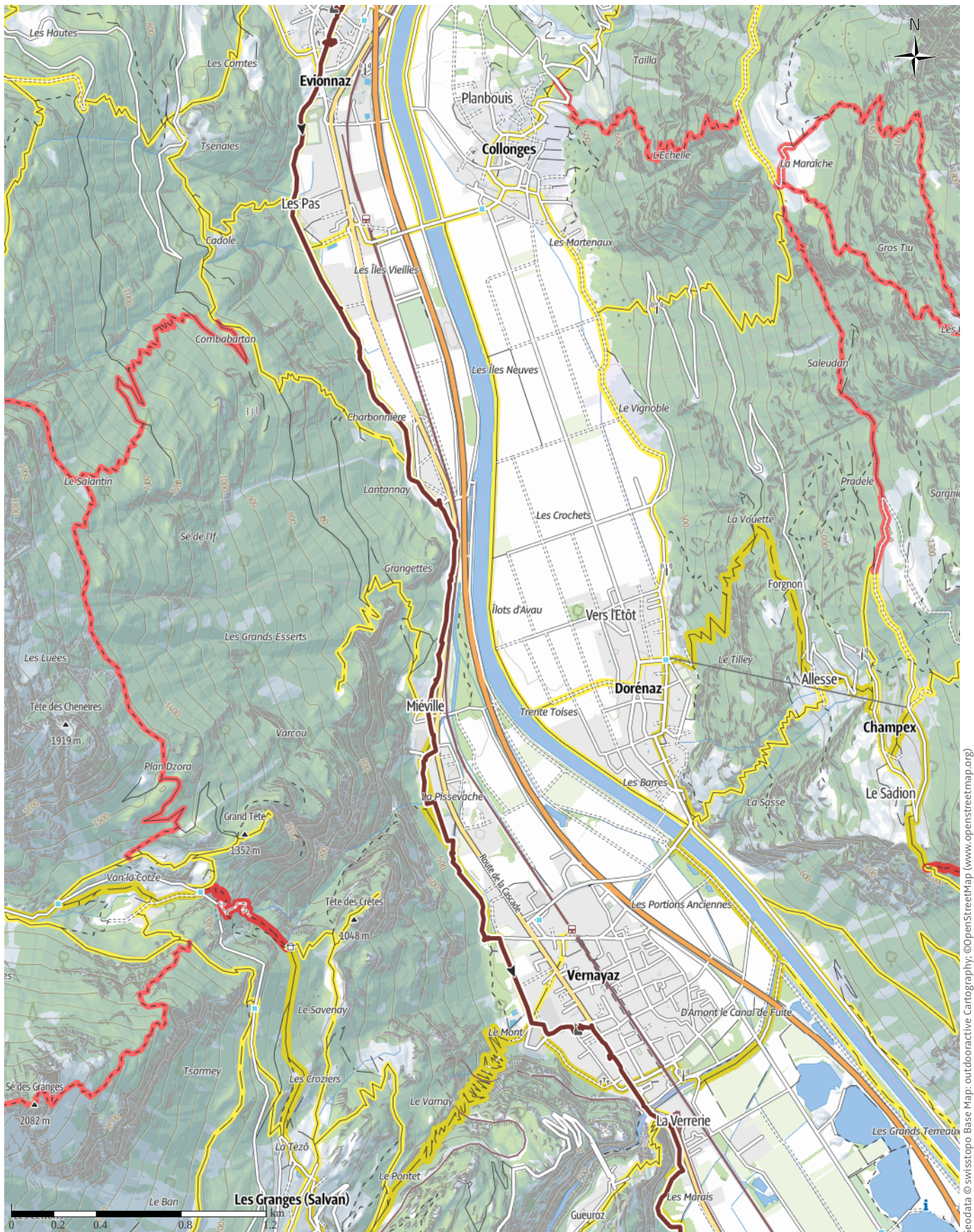
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Difficulty

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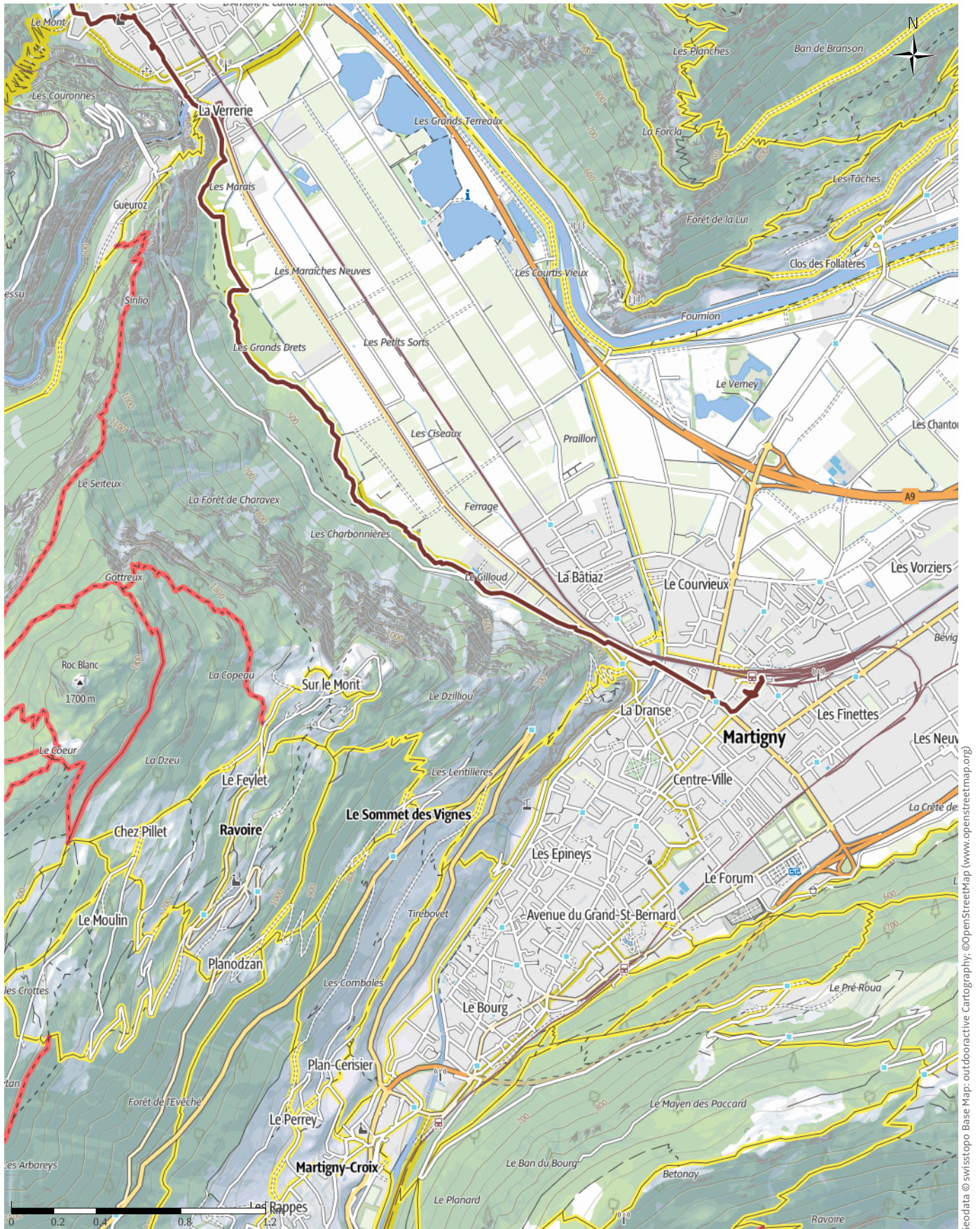
🕒 4:40 h

📏 147 m

📏 95 m

Difficulty

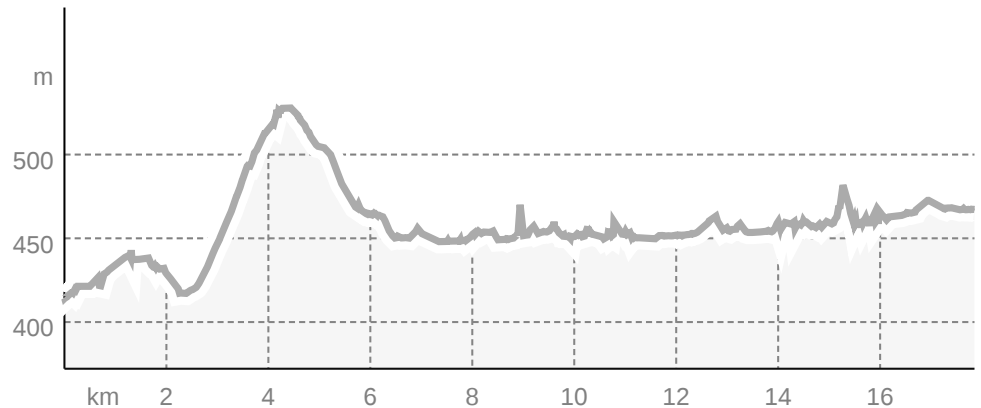
moderate



Track types

Length 17.9 km

Elevation profile



route data

Pilgrim Walk

Distance 17.9 km

Duration 4:40 h

Ascent 147 m

Descent 95 m

Difficulty moderate

Stamina

Technique

Altitude

528 m

414 m

Best time of year

JAN | FEB | MAR

APR | MAY | JUN

JUL | AUG | SEP

OCT | NOV | DEC

Ratings

Authors

Experience

Landscape

Community

More route data



Angus Carrick

Update: September 25, 2025

A varied walk from the site of an early Christian

martyr, past a waterfall, some rocks and some frogs. We had already looked round the cathedral at the end of our preveios stage, and had in fact walked this stretch in the opposite direction on the Camino: (see [Martigny to St. Maurice on the Rhein-Reuss-Rhone Way of St. James](#)) Never-the-less, on arriving at the railway station, rather than setting off away on the town on the marked Via Franigena, we went down to the Monatastic Market to have a look around. We then returned to the railway station, and followed the path through the car park and across the bridge to the stained glass monument to Saint Maurice. From there it was only a short walk to Vérollez, where a small chapel commemorates the martyrdom of Saint Maurice and his companions. At the end of the 3rd century, a Roman officer named Maurice had been executed at St.

Maurice for his Christian beliefs. A place of pilgrimage was then created here, and the Abbey of St. Maurice was founded by Sigismund, the King of Burgundy, in 515. After a long uphill stretch on a gravel path through woodlands and on a wooden bridge across the river, we reached Evionnaz, where we paused for a drink in a friendly cafe with a covered outside seating area. After having a chat with the locals (or at least Sue did, as she can speak the local language), we went on past the remains of an anti-tank embankment, consisting of concrete pyramids, reminiscent of Toblerone chocolate, as well as a concealed anti-tank gun emplacement, that had served as a line of defence during World War II. After some fairly boring stretches, including some along the side of a main road, with a railway and motorway on the other side of it, and a snack break in Mieville, we reached the Pissevache waterfall, whose beauty was an inspiration for Goethe, Rousseau and other poets and painters. The name of the 116-metre-high waterfall is said to be inspired by the French saying "il pleut comme vache qui pisse" (literally: it is raining like a cow pissing). After that, we came across a sign warning us to pass quickly and not to stop because of falling rocks! We didn't see any actually falling, but we saw enough fallen rocks of

some size, some of which had only fallen recently onto the trees beneath them. A little later, we went past Vernayaz and the entrance to the Trient Gorge, also famous for the battle of Trient in 1844, the closest Switzerland came to a civil war. This was followed by a walk through a wooded wet land area with its protected frogs, and a hike into Martigny crossing the Dranse river and on to the railway station. We finished up with tasty take-aways from a shop across from the station, and took the train home.

For more information and photos, [see Angus&Sue's website](#)

Protected areas

Federal landscape inventory

Gorges du Trient

Protected Area

Parc naturel régional de la Vallée du Trient

Takeaway route for iPhone and Android



Scan QR code, save this route offline, share with friends and more...

Website

<https://out.ac/IdaOKX>

Les voies historiques

DIFFÉRENTS TRACÉS À TRAVERS LES ÂGES

L'ancien chemin royal et la route impériale sont classés d'importance nationale à l'inventaire des voies de communication historiques de la Suisse (VHS). Leurs éléments caractéristiques (substance historique) figurent sur la carte de terrain VHS.

Extrait tiré du site www.vhs.admin.ch

FORMES DE CHEMINS / OCCUPATION	ÉLÉMENTS DU PAYSAGE HISTORIQUE
— itinéraire royal	— rochers
— chemin	— voie carrossable (route de chemin)
— voie de transport (landstrasse)	— route
— itinéraire de chemin / voie	— route (élément du paysage rural)

LES CHEMINS DU VERSANT

Trois sentiers permettent de parcourir le coteau en effectuant des boucles. Chacun d'eux présente des caractéristiques intéressantes. De la Balmaz, l'ancien chemin jouxte un chabale qui permettait de descendre les bois. Celui qui traverse la hêtraie sous Cadole était autrefois empierré. Le pavage est encore bien conservé à certains endroits. Celui s'élevant au-dessus d'Evionnaz pour rejoindre l'Epignat est moins raide et bordé de talus de part et d'autre, il forme un chemin creux.

LA VIA FRANCIGENA

L'itinéraire de la Via Francigena part de Canterbury, au sud-est de l'Angleterre, pour arriver à Rome en passant par le col du Grand-St-Bernard. Cette voie de pèlerinage, rétablie pour le Jubilé de l'an 2000, traverse la France, la Suisse et l'Italie. Elle a été ouverte par l'empereur Claude au 1^{er} siècle de notre ère pour conquérir la Grande Bretagne. Voie commerciale au Moyen Âge, elle draine les pèlerins depuis douze siècles. En Suisse, elle s'étend sur 215 kilomètres. Les étapes ont été définies sur la base de l'itinéraire fait par Sigéric, l'archevêque de Canterbury, au retour d'un voyage à Rome en 990. De St-Maurice à Martigny, elle emprunte l'ancien chemin royal.

LA GRAND-ROUTE AVANT 1800

La Grand-Route, anciennement appelée chemin royal, permettait de traverser le Valais et d'atteindre les cols du Simplon et du Grand-St-Bernard. Malgré une fréquentation importante, le chemin est resté souvent très étroit et irrégulier. Les inondations et éboulements étaient fréquents. Aujourd'hui, le trajet de cette ancienne route ne subsiste que par tronçons entre St-Maurice et Martigny, notamment entre Evionnaz et La Balmaz. Transformé, il est encore bien signalé dans le paysage par l'allée d'arbres qui le borde.

Photo: Angus Carrick, Community

Legend

Topography

	Wood, forest
	Moor, swamp, marsh
	Heath
	Residential area with single building
	Industrial area with single building
	Cemetery
	Golf course
	Sportsfield, stadium
	Stadium
	Open-air pool
	Vineyard
	Petrograph
	Country border
	State border
	District border
	Contour line
	Special use area
	Nature reserve

Topographic signs

	Summit cross
	Elevation point
	Rock
	Cave
	Church
	Chapel
	Cemetery
	Palace/Castle
	Abbey
	Monument
	Ruin
	Mine
	Cairn
	Broadcasting tower
	Windwheel
	Water-/windmill
	Viewpoint

Road and track

	Motorway
	Highway
	Statel road
	Road
	Main agricultural road
	Agricultural road
	Trail
	Via Ferrata

Lifts and railway

	Ropeway lift
	Gondola lift
	Chairlift
	Ski-, draglift
	Aerial ropeways
	Railway
	Suburban train
	Subway
	Tram
	Railway station